

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

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East Germany

SECURITY INFORMATION  
REPORT

COUNTRY

Military Information from Gera

TOPIC

EVALUATION

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED

PREPARED 12 May 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES

ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. Between 15 and 18 April 1953, rather heavy motor vehicle traffic was observed between the Reuss Kaserne in Gera and the warehouse. Trucks hauled officers and luggage from the barracks installation to the railroad station. Dependents purchased unusually large quantities at the HO store.
2. On 9 March, a Colonel Shoskokat (fnu) was identified in Gera.
3. On 15 and 16 April, the Reuss Kaserne was occupied by about 3,500 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery, tank or motor transport insignia. Close-order drill and firing practice were observed. Soldiers practiced with 6 x 100-mm AT guns and 4 x 150-mm howitzers.

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4. On 15 and 16 April, the Panzer Kaserne Tinz was occupied by about 1,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank, artillery or motor transport insignia. Close-order drill, recruit training and driving school with 4 JS tanks, 2 T-34 tanks and 1 JSU-122 were observed.
5. On 12 April, the Reuss Kaserne was occupied by about 1,800 troops with red-bordered black epaulets. On 7 April, 250 EM were engaged in close-order drill and did aiming practice with 8 x 100-mm AT guns in the barracks yard. Four 76-mm AT guns were standing in front of a hall. On 9 April, soldiers received instruction and did aiming practice with 6 x 57-mm AT guns in the barracks yard. On 11 April, EM were observed cleaning 7 x 100-mm AT guns in front of the halls.

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6. On 10 April, 12 tanks were observed in the yard of the Panzer Kaserne Tinz. Between 5 and 12 April, soldiers were observed at close-order drill and field training in the barracks area. On 6 April, several tanks did school driving between wooden poles. Vehicles observed at the installation included:

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7. On 3 March, the Panzer Kaserne Tinz was occupied by about 1,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank, artillery or motor transport insignia. Four T-34/85 tanks were parked between the installation and the ammunition dump. Close-order drill and firing practice were observed.

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1. Comment. The observations at the Reuss Kaserne confirm that the 308th Arty Brig of the XXVIII Gds Mtz Rifle Corps was still in Gera on 18 April 1953. On 19 April 1953, the brigade was entrained and probably left for Ohrdruf.

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2. Comment. The occupation of the Panzer Kaserne Tinz cannot definitely be interpreted. A possible transfer of the 220th Hv Tank SP Regt from Glauchau to Gera has not been confirmed.

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